Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT A 00536 112145Z ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 PM-04 ISO-00 CG-00 DOTE-00 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EB-08 /032 W

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R 112111Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

TO NAVOCEANO WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4049

CNO WASHDC//OP63//

CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

USCINCSO QUARRY HTS CZ//SCSA//

DIA WASHDC//AH-7//

SECDEF WASHDC

COMNAVFORCARIB ROOSEVELT RDS PR

DMA WASHDC

CONFIDENTIAL PORT AU PRINCE 0536

FROM AMBASSADOR

EO 11652 GDS TAGS: MILI, HA

SUBJECT: HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY OF PORT AU PRINCE HARBOR AREA

REF: (A) US NAVAL OCEANOGRAPHIC OFFICE LETTER, CODE 3100, DATED 16 APRIL 1976; SUBJECT COASTAL SURVEYS IN CARIBBEAN AREA; (B) USCINCSO MSG 042118Z FEB 77

- 1. IT IS REQUESTED THAT THE US NAVAL OCEANOGRAPHIC OFFICE (NAVOCEANO) THROUGH THE HARBOR SURVEY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (HARSAP), CONDUCT A HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY OF THE PORT AU PRINCE HARBOR AREA AT AN EARLY DATE.
- 2. THE MOST CURRENT NAVIGATIONAL CHART OF PORT AU PRINCE, BASED ON SURVEYS CONDUCTED IN 1913, IS CONSIDERED WHOLLY INADEQUATE BY PORT USERS.IN LIGHT OF THE INCREASE IN PORT CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 PORT A 00536 112145Z

VISITS BY VESSELS OF THE US FLEET, INCREASED COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC AND A MAJOR IDB-FINANCED PORT EXPANSION PROGRAM SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION IN JUNE 1978, AN URGENT NEED EXISTS FOR UPDATING NAVIGATIONAL AIDS AND EXISTING NAUTICAL CHARTS, AND FOR DOING SO AT A DATE EARLIER THAN THAT PROPOSED IN REF A (JULY 1978 - MAY 1979).

3. IT HAS COME TO OUR ATTENTION THAT THE US NAVY HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY SHIP, USNS HARKNESS, IS PRESENTLY COMPLETING A MISSION IN THE WATERS OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND IS SCHEDULED TO MOVE TO PANAMA FOR FEB 1977 - JUNE 1978 PERIOD. ALTHOUGH WE CANNOT ASSESS URGENCY OF PANAMA'S NEEDS, WE REQUEST THAT DOD CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF HARKNESS ASSETS BEING EMPLOYED TO ACCOMPLISH THE REQUIRED PORT AU PRINCE HARBOR SURVEY WITHIN A TIME FRAME RELEVANT TO NAVIGATIONAL NEEDS HERE.

4. GOVT OF HAITI WILL WELCOME THIS ASSISTANCE, ALTHOUGH ITS PARTICIPATION IN SURVEY MAY BE LIMITED BY LACK OF FUNDS, TRAINED PERSONNEL AND APPROPRIATE EQUIPMENT. RECOMMEND, THEREFORE, THAT A PRELIMINARY VISIT BE MADE TO THIS LOCATION BY LIAISON TEAM FROM HARKNESS AND/OR HARSAP COODINATOR FROM STAFF OF USCINCSO. THIS WOULD PROVIDE HARSAP TECHNICIANS AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS DETAILS OF PROGRAM WITH HAITIAN AUTHORITIES AND CONDUCT A BRIEF RECONNAISSANCE OF THE AREA.

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Message Attributes

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